

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Lehigh County Authority was called to order at 12:02 p.m. on Monday, February 27, 2017, Secretary Richard Bohner presiding. Other Members present at the commencement of the meeting were: Linda Rosenfeld, Kevin Baker, Tom Muller, and Norma Cusick. Authority Staff present were Liesel Gross, Brad Landon, Chuck Volk, Ed Klein, Pat Mandes, John Parsons, Chris Moughan and Lisa Miller.

Brad Landon instructed the Board, since the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board were not present, it must elect a Chair pro tem. On a motion by Tom Muller, seconded by Norma Cusick, the Board elected Richard Bohner as Chair pro tem of the meeting (5-0).

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Liesel Gross announced that today's Board meeting is being videotaped and streaming live which, if successful, will then be posted to the Authority's website. A statement regarding the live video recording is noted on the agenda and signage is placed in the room to inform anyone attending that the meetings are being recorded.

Ms. Gross also announced there will be an Executive Session regarding potential litigation. Also, the 2017 Goals will be deferred to a March meeting when all Board members are anticipated to be present.

Ted Lyons arrived at 12:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 13, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Richard Bohner suggested a correction on the first page under Wynnewood and Sand Spring Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement that the word (*consultant*) be removed after the words *Contract Award* and also the same be removed from the motion.

On a motion by Norma Cusick, seconded by Linda Rosenfeld, the Board approved the Minutes of the February 13, 2017 meeting as revised with the above noted changes (6-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert Hamill, Lower Macungie Township, was present and commented he has never seen the Little Lehigh Creek so low this time of year. He also commented that according to the 1990 USGS study, there is a direct correlation between the groundwater and the Little Lehigh that if the Authority is taking water out of Well #8, it will affect the creek. He recommends the Authority close Well #8 off totally and allow the Department of Environmental Protection to put the Little Lehigh Creek on its critically endangered watershed list. He stated that this action would give the Authority the ability to require more stringent water use restrictions of all users, including manufacturers, during periods of drought.

Election of Officers

Tom Muller, serving as the Nominating Committee, indicated he had polled the Board members to determine what capacity they are willing to serve on the Board. He then offered the following slate of nominations for 2017:

Brian C. Nagle, Chair
Richard H. Bohner, Secretary
Scott Bieber, Vice Chair

Norma A. Cusick, Assistant Secretary
Ted Lyons, Treasurer
Kevin Baker, Assistant Treasurer

Mr. Muller asked if there were any other nominations, which there were not. Norma Cusick made a motion to close the nominations, which was seconded by Linda Rosenfeld. With no additional nominations from the

floor, the nominations were closed and the slate of officers elected by acclamation. The term of the officers elected will begin on March 1, 2017.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Resolution #2-2017-1 – Connection Fees & Allentown Division Tapping Fees

Resolution #2-2017-1 establishes the various components of certain Lehigh County Authority Capital Recovery Fees for the City Division Wastewater and Water systems as well as connection fees for the all applicable service areas. The Authority is required by the Municipality Authorities Act to adopt, by Resolution, the Connection and Tapping Fees. Dave Bush from Keystone Alliance Consulting was present and reviewed the exhibits attached to the Resolution. Mr. Bush is the Authority's Rate consultant who will also be working on the Suburban Division rate study later in 2017. Liesel Gross was asked to explain tapping fees and how they are calculated, and she provided a brief summary of the process and how tapping fees are applied to new connections to the water or sewer systems so that new customers contribute a fair share toward the cost of the system existing at the time of the connection, in addition to the regular bills issued for services provided after the connection is completed.

On a motion by Norma Cusick, seconded by Linda Rosenfeld, the Board approved Resolution 2-2017-1 (6-0).

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

Ed Klein gave an overview of the January 2017 Financial Report. The Report was previously emailed to the Board for their review prior to the meeting.

SYSTEM OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

John Parsons reviewed the January 2017 Operations Report that was attached to the Board agenda. Mr. Parsons noted that well production in the Central Lehigh Division is at 1.60 million gallons per day (mgd) which is well below prior withdrawal rates due to the increase in water being purchased through the system interconnection with Allentown. The Board stated that according to the report, the Authority seems to be drawing much less water than the permitted levels. Liesel Gross noted that while Wells 8 & 12 were permitted for withdrawals up to 2.8 mgd when they were expanded in 2010, these sources are being used at much lower levels, at most times withdrawing less now than they were when they were originally constructed in the 1980s.

STAFF COMMENTS

Liesel Gross informed the Board that Al Guisepppe of Spotts Stevens and McCoy will be present in March to give a report on the water supply monitoring and drought studies.

SOLICITOR'S COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS / OTHER COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair pro tem Bohner called an Executive Session at 12:39 p.m. to discuss two items related to potential litigation.

The Executive Session ended at 1:08 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair pro tem adjourned the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

Richard H. Bohner
Secretary